

VI.—*Description of a new African Fish of the Genus Clarias from Lake Rukwa.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.

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LITTLE is known of the fishes of Lake Rukwa, south-east of Lake Tanganyika. Twelve species have been enumerated by Hilgendorf and Pappenheim (Sitzb. Ges. naturf. Fr. Berl. 1903, p. 259), the determinations of some of which appear to be in need of revision. On the occasion of a recent visit Mr. F. H. Mellard has been so good as to preserve a few fish for the British Museum; among these I may notice *Amphilius platychir*, Gthr., *Clarias gariepinus*, Burch., and a new *Clarias* which I propose to name, in memory of the late Prof. Franz Hilgendorf,

*Clarias hilgendorfi.*

Depth of body  $6\frac{1}{2}$  times in total length, length of head  $4\frac{2}{3}$  times. Head  $1\frac{2}{3}$  times as long as broad, smooth; occipital process longer than broad, acutely pointed; frontal fontanelle sole-shaped,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as long as broad; occipital fontanelle narrow, elongate, partly on occipital process; eye very small, 3 times in length of snout, 6 times in interorbital width, which is a little less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head; band of præmaxillary teeth not quite 4 times as long as broad; vomerine teeth granular, forming a curved band which is nearly as broad as the præmaxillary band; nasal barbel  $\frac{2}{3}$  length of head, maxillary  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , outer mandibular nearly 1, inner mandibular  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Gill-rakers few, 12 on first arch. Clavicles concealed under the skin. Dorsal 73, its distance from occipital process  $\frac{1}{4}$  length of head. Anal 62. Dorsal and anal extending almost to the very root of the caudal. Pectoral not quite  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head, spine short, strongly serrated on both sides. Ventrals very small,  $1\frac{2}{3}$  times as far from caudal as from end of snout. Caudal  $\frac{1}{2}$  length of head. Uniform blackish brown; caudal with a narrow light edge.

Total length 130 mm.

A single specimen.

Allied to *Cl. laviceps*, Gill. Distinguished by the granular vomerine teeth, fewer gill-rakers, fewer dorsal and anal rays, and a longer and narrower occipital process.